Taiyou no Romance

Slice of Life Slice of Bliss

Volume 3 Chapter 14

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By: Yamakami Riyu

Credits

Scanner: Kinky
Translator: wiktor_temple
Cleaner: Husky
Typesetter: Kiri
QC: Hikko
Proofreader: Kinky

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By: Yamakami Riyu

Credits

Scanner: Okaasan
Translator: Trombonesonmars
Editor: Juli
QC: Mero
Proofreader: Ellrohan, Celeste

http://bliss.diamond-virgin.net Bliss.Scanlations@gmail.com

Bliss is hiring

http://bliss.diamond-virgin.net

Japanese & Chinese Translators
Editors
Proofreaders

Contact us:
Bliss.Scanlations@gmail.com

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Editors
Proofreaders
Quality Control
Japanese/Chinese Translators

Contact Us: Bliss.Scanlations@gmail.com

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やまかみ梨由のCOMICS

RIYU YAMAKAMI

太陽のロマンス3

CONTENTS

第12話 003
第13話 045
第14話 081
第15話 111
第16話 151
あとがき 188

HA
HA
HA
Shidou-kun
...

太陽
の
ロマンス
第12話
Bliss

SHIDOU...!
This place
No wounds
There are
KNOCK KNOCK

Kanou san
WHAT A RELIEF
WE WERE WORRIED, WITH YOU SLEEPING LIKE THIS FOR TWO DAYS AND ALL
AH
click
HAVE YOU WOKEN UP?
WHAT ...
WHAT ABOUT SHIDOU-KUN?
WHERE IS HE?
IS HE SAFE?
AH HANG ON, HANG ON
HE'S IN ANOTHER ROOM, SO I'LL LET YOU SEE HIM LATER
NOW THEN, CAN WE CHAT FOR A BIT?
SOMEHOW, IT SEEMS THAT WE'RE A LITTLE DELAYED IN COMING AROUND TO SEE YOU, HUH?
IT'S EMBARRASSING TO SAY BUT AFTER WE STOPPED HEARING FROM YOU, WE WEREN'T GETTING ANY NEW INFORMATION
I REALIZE THAT SOUKO WAS SHOWING YOU SOME OF HER WORK, BUT WE WEREN'T ABLE TO GET INVOLVED

WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE COMMOTION AND ESCAPED WITHOUT SOUKO NOTICING. WE WERE ABLE TO TRANSPORT YOU HERE BUT IT WAS QUITE DANGEROUS
IT WAS A COINCIDENCE THAT WE HAPPENED TO FIND YOU IN THAT PLACE
WE JUST HAPPENED TO SEND ONE OF OUR SUBORDINATES OUT TO URAYASU LABORATORIES FOR INFORMATION WHEN IT COLLAPSED
YOU
THOSE EVENTS...
WHY WERE YOU IN THAT PLACE?
WE WANT YOU TO TELL US WHAT HAPPENED
JUST
PLEASE JUST LEAVE ME ALONE
WHAT DOES MIGIWA WANT WITH ME?
YOU'RE A
MEMBER OF MIGIWA THEN

I'M BEGGING YOU!
PLEASE LEAVE SHIDOU-KUN ALONE!
AYABE-KUN.
HE PUT HIMSELF IN GRAVE DANGER TO SAVE ME...
IT'S JUST
FOR ME.
.....
WHERE IS
SHIDOU-KUN?
LET ME SEE HIM.

...I UNDER-STAND
PLEASE LET ME SEE HIM..
I UNDER-STAND, SO JUST WAIT A LITTLE BIT
I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY
PLEASE LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY TOO
I'M AN EMPLOYEE OF MIGIWA,
BUT I'M WORKING TOWARDS A DIFFERENT GOAL THAN SOUKO
I SAID IT EARLIER DIDN'T I? THAT I WANT TO HELP YOU!
I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY AT ALL

BELONGING TO WHAT IS CALLED THE "THIRTEENTH PROJECT"
YOU KNOW WHO CONSISTENTLY COMES TO MIND WHEN TALKING ABOUT MIGIWA, RIGHT?
THAT PERSON IS MIGIWA'S FOUNDER, SOUKO'S GRANDFATHER
EVEN THOUGH HE'S PASSED AWAY THE PRESIDENT LEFT A SPECIAL BUDGET RESERVED FOR OUR DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES
OUR DEPARTMENT WAS STARTED TO CONTINUE THE TRADITIONAL AIMS OF THE COMP
HOWEVER, OUR WORK HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MIGIWA'S PROFITS WHATSOEVER.
WE HAVE ONLY ONE OBJECTIVE. "INVESTIGATE AND PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF THE CLAN THAT NEITHER AGES NOR DIES"
THIS GOES FOR MIGIWA, AND OF COURSE FOR SOUKO TOO.
IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE AN INSTITUTION THAT IS COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT FROM THE MAIN COMPANY.
THEREFORE OUR WORK WON'T BECOME MINIMA'S ACHIEVEMENT.
OFFICIALLY, THE THIRTEENTH PROJECT DOESN'T EXIST.

AYABE-KUN
THAT BOY SHIDOU...
IS A MEMBER OF "THE CLAN," RIGHT?
AS FAR AS I KNOW, "THE CLAN" EATS THE HEARTS OF "OFFERINGS" AS FOOD TO MAINTAIN THEIR ETERNAL YOUTH.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S A PREDATOR AND PREY RELATIONSHIP.
BUT YOU TWO...
YOU GUYS RAN FROM SOUKO'S PLACE, RIGHT?
WHEN MY SUBORDINATES FOUND YOU TWO, THAT BOY SHIDOU WAS PASSED OUT ON TOP OF YOU AS IF TO SHIELD YOU.
WHY?
SHIDOU SAVED YOU.
THAT HE WOULD GO SO FAR AS TO PROTECT YOU...

I WONDER WHY...
I FEEL THAT THERE'S SOMETHING OF A BOND BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU...
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO ME,
WHAT SHIDOU-KUN REALLY IS...
BUT...
I HAVE NO IDEA
I... I DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING AT ALL...
WAIT, PLEASE
WAIT...
HOW FAR HAS HER RESEARCH ADVANCED?
HOW MUCH DOES SOUKO UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE CLAN?
PLEASE TELL US WHAT HAPPENED AT URAYASU LABORATORIES

HE'S PUT HIMSELF IN SO MUCH DANGER...
I...
BUT HE'S GOTTEN HURT SO MANY TIMES IN ORDER TO SAVE ME,
OVER AND OVER, FOR ME.
DON'T WANT HIM TO GO THROUGH ANYMORE BLOODSHED.
IF HE SAYS HE NEEDS MY HEART, THEN HE CAN TAKE IT
JUST HURRY UP AND TAKE IT...
I WANT HIM TO GET AWAY FROM THAT SOUKO WOMAN
SHIDOU-KUN...
WHERE IS HE?
SHE MIGHT KILL SHIDOU-KUN
PLEASE LET ME SEE HIM!
I'M BEGGING YOU!
.....

COME WITH ME
Is this a hospital?
THIS IS ONE OF MIGIWA'S FACILITIES
HOWEVER, ONLY A FEW PEOPLE IN THE COMPANY KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT
IT IS HIGHLY CONTROLLED THE PROXY CURRENTLY ADMINISTERING THIS FACILITY IS A NEWCOMER WITH NO REAL POWER
IT HARBORS THE DREAMS OF THIS COMPANY
FOR INDULGING HIS HOBBY THE EX-DIRECTOR SPARED NO EXPENSE
*In Folklores, she is sometimes refered to as a Siren who lure unworry sailors to their deaths
HOBBY
WELL NATURALLY ETERNAL YOUTH AND IMMORTALITY IS A FAIRYTALE, A FANTASY
THE LONELINESS OF THE MARINER WHO WAS DOUBTED BY MORGAN LE FAY*,
EVEN HIS SHIP WAS SUNK

The science of eternal life is no longer a dream
The ability to provide it will bring wealth
BUT...
TRADI-TIONALLY, THAT WAS WHAT WAS THOUGHT
THAT SORT OF THING WOULD NATURALLY BE CONSID-ERED FANTASY
WELL...
THERE ARE ALSO SCHOLARS WHO QUESTION THE RESPONSI-BILITY OF EXTENDING THE HUMAN LIFESPAN
EVEN THE BELIEF THAT WE SHOULD TREASURE OUR LIVES EXACTLY BECAUSE THEY ARE LIMITED IS CHANGING
BUT WHAT WOULD THE TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE ETERNAL LIFE BRING MANKIND?
ALREADY THE EXCESSIVE WORLD POPULATION IS CAUSING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERIORATION
A HUMAN RACE LIBERATED FROM "AGING" MIGHT BE A HUGE LEAP FORWARD
BUT A POWERFUL TECHNO-LOGY CAN ALSO BE A POWERFUL WEAPON
OF COURSE, ADVANCEMENTS IN THE STUDY OF AGING WOULD SAVE MANY PEOPLE, RIGHT?
THERE'S ALSO THE QUESTION OF RELIGIOUS APPROACHES
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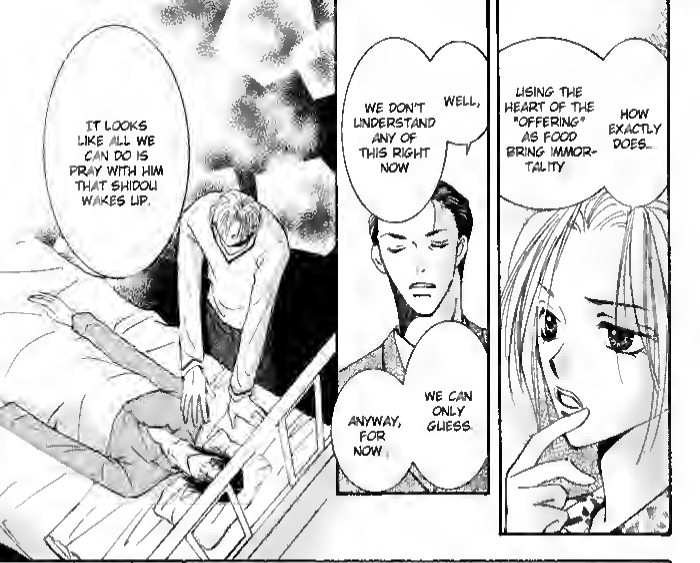
IF IMMORTALITY WERE TO BECOME A REALITY,
IT WOULDN'T NECESSARILY IMPROVE THE DIRECTION THE WORLD IS HEADING.
THIS WAS A WORRY FOR THE PREVIOUS DIRECTOR
THAT'S ALL THE MORE REASON FOR THIS HOBBY OF HIS
THIS ABILITY CANNOT BE USED FOR REASONS OF SELF-INTEREST.
LONG AGO QIN SHI HUANG OF THE QUIN DYNASTY* DESIRED A MEDICINE THAT PROLONGED LIFE, SO HE SENT XU FU TO SEARCH FOR IT IN JAPAN
MANY TALENTED INDIVIDUALS, RICHES, JEWELS, AND PROVISIONS WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER.
THE POSSIBILITY OF SOMETHING BEING LEFTOVER FROM THE TIME WHEN YAYOI CULTURE WAS FORMING IS BEING DISCUSSED
THIS LEGEND STILL REMAINS ALL OVER JAPAN
Qin Dynasty - period in Chinese history from 221 206 BCE
Yayoi Period - 300BC 300AD (the end of the Qin Dynasty overlap)
THE PREVIOUS DIRECTOR LOVED THE MAGNIFICENT AMBITION OF THE PEOPLE THAT WANTED A UTOPIA WITH THAT KIND OF PERPETUAL YOUTH AND LONGEVITY
I THINK THAT WE OUGHT TO CONTINUE WITH HIS SPIRIT IN MIND.
NOW THEN...

IT'S JUST AS WE ARE NOW. THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR HIM.
HE HAS NO EXTERNAL INJURIES
BUT, HE ISN'T IN A NORMAL STATE RIGHT NOW
SHIDOU-KUN IS IN THIS ROOM
!
IS HE WOUNDED!?
HIS BRAINWAVE PATTERNS AREN'T WHAT THEY SHOULD BE IN A NORMAL PERSON AT ALL, WE CAN'T INTERPRET THEM.
HIS INTERNAL ORGAN FUNCTION IS MINIMAL. THEY'RE ONLY WORKING TO THE DEGREE NECESSARY TO KEEP HIM ALIVE
HIS BODY TEMPERATURE AND BLOOD PRESSURE ARE FALLING
HIS PULSE AND RESPIRATION RATES ARE LESS THAN HALF A NORMAL PERSON'S
FOR NOW, WE CAN ONLY GUESS
WHAT KIND OF CONDITION HE'S IN,
AND WHY HE WON'T WAKE UP.

CHIEF, SO THIS IS WHERE YOU ARE
HIMENO-KUN
HOW IS THE CONDITION OF THE SHIDOU BOY?
NONE AT ALL
HE'S STILL SLEEPING
ANY CHANGE?
IF YOU COULD CALL WHAT HE'S DOING "SLEEPING," ANYWAY
THE RESULTS OF HIS BLOOD COMPOSITION ANALYSIS...
THIS IS...
YES... IF YOU WERE TO COMPARE IT WITH HUMAN BLOOD, YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE.

EVEN SO, I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT'S BEFORE MY EYES IS TRULY REAL
WE CAN'T EVEN TAKE MEASURES TO TREAT HIM LIKE THIS
HAVING SAID THAT, IT ISN'T EVEN COMPARABLE TO THAT OF ANY VERTEBRATE
EVEN THE CONSTRUCTION OF HIS RED BLOOD CELLS IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT
THE SAME AS ALWAYS
CONSTANTLY BEING AT SHIDOU KUUCHI'S SIDE
HOW IS AYABE-KUN?
THAT SOMETHING LIKE THE CLAN REALLY EXISTS
AS FOR THAT KID, WE COULD NOT FIND ANY DIFFERENCES FROM A NORMAL MALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
IT'S BEEN FINISHED
HOW ABOUT AYABE-KUN'S BLOOD ANALYSIS?
HE IS HUMAN A QUITE NORMAL ONE AT THAT
WE STILL NEED TO THOROUGHLY ANALYZE HIS DNA TO BE SURE THOUGH
IT SEEMS LIKE HE IS BARELY RESTING AT ALL,
AT THAT RATE, EVEN THAT KID WILL COLLAPSE
OR EATING


USING THE HEART OF THE "OFFERING" AS FOOD BRING IMMORTALITY
HOW EXACTLY DOES...
WELL,
WE DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS RIGHT NOW
ANYWAY, FOR NOW
WE CAN ONLY GUESS.
IT LOOKS LIKE ALL WE CAN DO IS PRAY WITH HIM THAT SHIDOU WAKES UP.

A long time ago

Dad, Mom,
Chika,
MY TUMMY HURTS!
Whenever I felt bad,
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT
I wonder what you're all doing right now.
LOOK I'LL DO THIS FOR YOU!
My mom would always put her hand on my stomach like so
You've all...
Have all of you gone back to living happily, like always?
So even though I'm gone,
Forgotten me
Shokou-kun
You've all...
Forgotten me

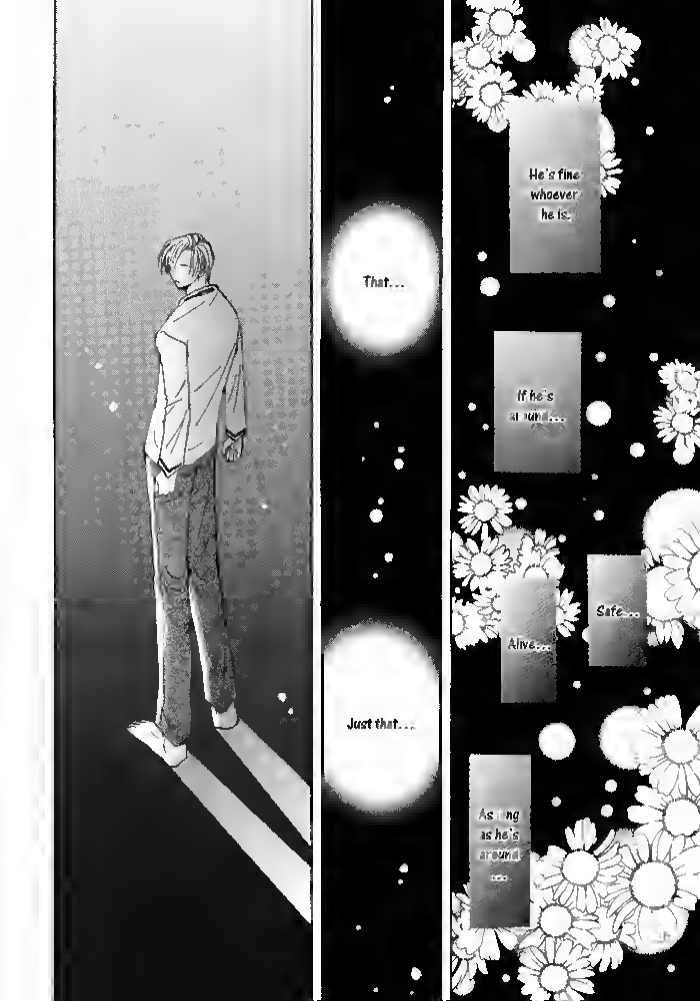
This way...
Your body is still cold
You didn't open your eyes today either
What should I do if things go on this way with you never opening your eyes?
What should I do...how should I
Wish I could
it up to you
The wound that should have killed me...
I don't know, but it was probably...
But now it's completely healed
You who saved me
At that time...

You died like this...
THERE'S NO WAY...
If...
That you've grown so weak you can't even open your eyes
It must be because of that...
I COULD...
GO ON LIVING
PLEASE...
WAKE UP...

DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE...
KNOCK
MOTOKI-KUN
HIME. HIMENO-SAN!
I BROUGHT FOOD FOR YOU
YOU HAVE TO EAT AT LEAST A LITTLE BIT
WHEN SHIDOU-KUN WAKES UP...
I'LL EAT
SAYING SUCH THINGS...
AT LEAST DRINK SOMETHING ALRIGHT?
IF YOU KEEP THIS UP YOU'RE GOING TO COLLAPSE
...I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU LIKE THIS
IT'S FINE ONE OF OUR ORIGINAL GOALS WAS TO PROTECT YOU, AFTER ALL

The organization aimed at searching for the secret of immortality...
BUT, HE'LL DEFINITELY BE ALRIGHT
YOU'RE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HIM, HUH...?
The thirteenth project...
The people who have been doing research on "the clan"...
HIS SPECIES IS INCREDIBLY CLOSE TO BEING IMMORTAL
LET'S BELIEVE IN HIM...OK?
YES...
But they feel different from that Migiwa Souko woman. That's the reason why I'm leaving us in their care but...
IF YOU READ LEGENDS AND HISTORIES FROM ALL OVER JAPAN, AND EXAMINE THEM FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES, YOU BEGIN TO SEE...
WHILE ON THE SURFACE, THERE IS NO PROOF IN HISTORY, IT SEEMS THERE WERE MANY WHO DESIRED THE CLAN'S TREMENDOUS POWER
"THE CLAN"
A SPECIES DIFFERENT FROM HUMANS...
I WONDER WHAT THEY REALLY ARE

THEY REALLY ARE A... MYSTERIOUS RACE
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
WHAT PURPOSE DOES THEIR ABILITY SERVE?
WHERE IS THEIR RACE HEADED?
NO...
THAT'S WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW
IT'S A CONTINUATION OF THE WILL OF THE OLD DIRECTOR
HE WANTS TO KNOW.
Where he came from...
But...
Everybody wants to know those things about him.
Really don't care about those things
I...
Where he's headed...


That...
Just that...
He's fine whoever he is.
If he's around...
Alive...
Safe...
As long as he's around...

I have to find him

Where
If Shidou-kun
Doesn't
Come out quickly
If he doesn't come I'll...
Never be able to find him again!
SLIP
AH!

SHIDOU-KUN
SHIDOU-KUN
SHIDOU

SHIDOU-KUN...
Here
You were
From the start...

From the start...
It was a...
Dream
I...
I FELL ASLEEP...
!
FINALLY

MOTOKI...
SQUEEZE
SO YOU WERE THE ONE...
WHO CALLED ME...

SHI
SHIDOU-KUN..!
I'M...
ALIVE.
WHY..?
EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT I'D USED UP ALL OF MY POWER...
BACK THERE
YOU'RE ALRIGHT, HUH?
YOUR WOUNDS HEALED, HUH?
I SEE

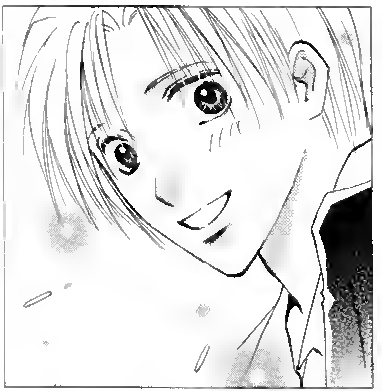
SHIDOU
I'M GLAD...
SHIDOU-KUN
A DREAM
I HAD...
I WAS BEING CALLED...
BY SOME-ONE
WITH SUCH... STRENGTH
THE WHOLE TIME

I SEARCHED FOR THE SOURCE OF THE VOICE
BUT COULDN'T FIND IT,
SO I KEPT ON WANDERING...
BUT,
THEN I REALIZED SOMETHING
I'D BEEN ABLE TO HEAR THAT VOICE
FROM INSIDE ME...
ALL LONG.

MOTOKI

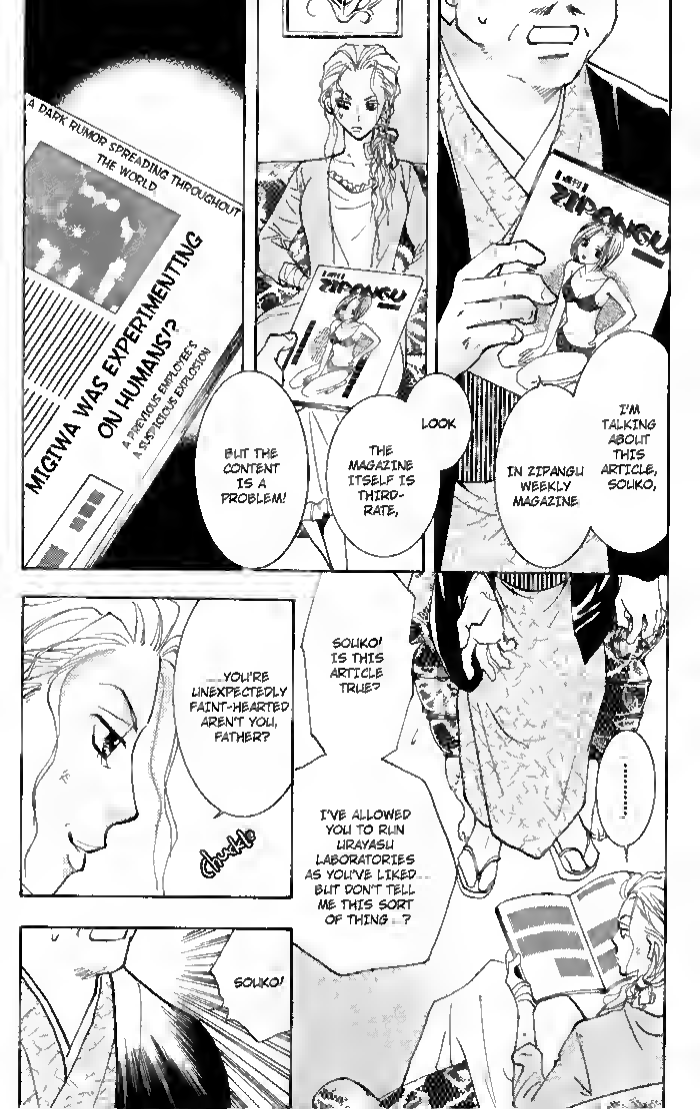
SHI...! SHIDOU-KUN...!
MY NAME
EH...?
WE DON'T HAVE LAST NAMES
SHIDOU IS AN ASSUMED NAME
I WANT YOU TO CALL ME BY MY PROPER NAME
WITH YOUR VOICE,
CALLING ME KUUCHI...
...KU...
KUUCHI...

KUUCHI
KUUCHI
KUU



CHAPTER 13

MIGIWA LABORATORY'S MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION
REALLY,
THIS ISN'T TURNING OUT WELL AT ALL


A DARK RUMOR SPREADING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
MIGIWA WAS EXPERIMENTING ON HUMANS!?
A PREVIOUS EMPLOYEE'S SUSPICIOUS EXPLOSION
BUT THE CONTENT IS A PROBLEM!
LOOK
THE MAGAZINE ITSELF IS THIRD-RATE,
I'M TALKING ABOUT THIS ARTICLE, SOUKO,
IN ZIPANGU WEEKLY MAGAZINE
SOUKO! IS THIS ARTICLE TRUE?
I'VE ALLOWED YOU TO RUN URAYASU LABORATORIES AS YOU'VE LIKED BUT DON'T TELL ME THIS SORT OF THING...?
.....
.....YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY FAINT-HEARTED AREN'T YOU, FATHER?
SOUKO!

THIS SORT OF LOWBROW MAGAZINE IS NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF
SOUKO!
IT'S THE GOSSIP ITSELF THAT'S THE PROBLEM!
DID THIS INFORMATION GET LEAKED IN THE CONFUSION AFTER THE EXPLOSION AT THE FACILITY!?
I'M ASKING WHAT HAPPENED!
IF THIS NEGATIVE RUMOR SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE PUBLIC, THIS ARTICLE WILL BE JUST THE BEGINNING!
THERE WAS EVEN A PRIME MINISTER WHO WAS DISMISSED DUE TO A WEEKLY MAGAZINE SCANDAL!
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME!?
WHY FATHER,
SHOULDN'T YOU BE REJOICING THAT YOUR ONLY DAUGHTER WAS MIRACULOUSLY SAVED?
I'M HURT.
.....
I... I HAVE MORE OR LESS TURNED A BLIND EYE TO WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING,
AND IT'S TRUE THAT YOU HAVE GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE GROWTH OF THE MIGIWA CORPORATION
HOWEVER
.....

SMACK
SMACK
...OH, ENOUGH!
IF THERE'S EVEN THE SMALLEST CHANCE
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THE NEGATIVE IMAGE CREATED BY THIS MAGAZINE!
BUT, YOU KNOW!
IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT, PLEASE DON'T INTERFERE WITH MY AFFAIRS!
YOU JUST WON'T SHUT UP!
YOU CAN'T EVEN DO ANYTHING WHEN I'M NOT AROUND!
YOU SHOULD JUST BACK OFF, OLD MAN!
S.
SOU-KO...
I...I DON'T EVEN...
KNOW YOU ANY-MORE!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANY BUSINESS ABILITY ANYWAY!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUST BE QUIET AND MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE KOI IN YOUR POND!
UM...
UH...

But even so,
It is true that this is a bit bad,
HMPH
HE'S JUST A NOBODY ANYWAY
SLAM
But if there's any chance that the Lavelle Corporation or the Fair Trade Commission could catch wind of this...
THE OTHER SIDE OF BEAUTY PRODUCTS?
Even if it's an big deal that some information leaked to this third-rate magazine
This could be a disastrous develop ment
BURU BURU
YEAH, IT'S ME
HOW'S IT GOING THERE?
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GET TO IT ALREADY YOU DIMWIT

WHAT ABOUT THE RESEARCH DATA?
OH, IS THAT RIGHT... ALMOST EVERYTHING WAS LOST IN THE FIRE AFTER ALL? THE SAMPLE TOO?
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO. IT'S CONVENIENT THAT ALL THE EVIDENCE WAS BURNED IN THE FIRE.
ALSO—
THE POLICE?
LEAVE THAT BE. THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED
DON'T WORRY. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
IT ABSOLUTELY MUST BE KEPT SECRET FROM THE MEDIA
YOU KNOW WELL ENOUGH TO NOT EVEN OPEN YOUR MOUTH, RIGHT?
TEAM TANATOS
RIGHT
TAJIMA AND RICHARD
RACHELLE WILL NEED TWO MONTHS TO RECOVER?
GOD, THAT'S A SERIOUS INJURY
WE'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH A REPLACEMENT
RIGHT
CLICK
I won't forgive him

Shidou Kuuchi...
He took everything I worked so hard to build...
And shattered it
It's all his fault
I'll be sure...
I won't forgive him!
To hunt him down

Ecsta tic
YOU ARE...
THE CLAN'S...
I'll drag him out and bring him down!
UH...
I CAN'T REALLY SAY "NICE TO MEET YOU."
WE'VE MET ONCE BEFORE
YOU REALLY ARE WHAT WE THOUGHT YOU WERE

UM...
WAIT
THERE ARE MANY THINGS WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.
IS IT ALL RIGHT IF WE TALK A LITTLE BIT?
Huh
SH...
SHIDOU-KUN!
.....
WITH A HUMAN
.....
THERE'S NOTHING I NEED TO TALK ABOUT...

DEJECTED
...I THINK THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE
THEY SAVED US,
AND...IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THEY HAVE THE MOTIVES MIGIWA DID IN GETTING CLOSE TO YOU
...ISN'T IT OKAY TO AT LEAST HEAR HIM OUT...?
THERE THERE CHIEF
...IT LOOKS LIKE HE HATES ME
WHY THEY'RE BEING NICE TO US ISN'T THE QUESTION
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE,
OR IF THEY HAVE A DIFFERENT MOTIVE THAN SOLIKO
BUT THAT'S
THAT'S NOT IT.
IT'S THAT WE CAN'T GET TOO INVOLVED WITH OTHER PEOPLE.
EVEN IF THEY MEAN WELL...
F...

EVEN THE AMOUNT THAT THE CORPORATION ALREADY KNOWS
IS TOO MUCH
A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT EXISTENCE LIKE OURS...
WILL JUST INVITE CHAOS TO HUMAN SOCIETY
...MOTOKI.
Pang
Completely different...
WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE TONIGHT

RATTLE
WHO'S THERE!?
SKRR SMACK
FORGET
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
YOU'RE AMAZ-ING
haze~
YOU'RE MUCH BETTER AT MANIPULAT-ING MEMORY THAN I AM.

But then what about my parents?
Huh?
What about Ching?
That s
kind of lonely
But
If you look at it that way,
I guess I m not really human...
STAGGER
I can't do it consciously
Even if you say so
THIS WAY
SHIDOU-KUN ..
I'M FINE
BUT...
YOU WERE ON THE BRINK OF DEATH A FEW DAYS AGO!
MAYBE WE OUGHT TO REST AFTER ALL...
NO. WE CAN'T.

WE HAVE TO HURRY
Kaneu-san, Himeno-san...
I'm sorry we left without saying a word...

HUH?
YOU
ARE YOU REALLY STILL SO ATTACHED TO THEM?
Even though they treated us so well
I at least wanted to say thank you.
ARE DIFFERENT FROM US IN THAT YOU CAN BE AS CLOSE TO HUMANS AS YOU WANT.
YOU COULD ACTUALLY HAVE A COMFORTABLE NORMAL LIFE
... IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY...
YOU COULD LIVE AS A HUMAN.
IF SO, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN
WILL YOU GO BACK?

MIGIWA SOUKO WILL PROBABLY PURSUE US FROM HERE ON OUT,
AND I HAVEN'T SETTLED THINGS WITH KAZUFUSA YET
IF YOU COME WITH ME YOU WON'T HAVE ANY CHANCE FOR A PEACEFUL LIFE
SO IF YOU STAY HERE
I
.....
MOTO... KI...
...DON'T...

SAY THINGS LIKE THAT...
...DON'T...
!!!
God, im so
Disgrace ful
Alw ys crying...
...SORRY...

But
I don't
Anymore.
<Want to
be alone...

I don't want to be separated from him
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AWAY?
B-BECAUSE...
DO YOU NOT LIKE IT?
It's not...!
THAT'S NOT...!
DO...
YOU PROMISE NOT TO LAUGH?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...
I'VE EVER LIKED SOMEONE LIKE THIS
S...
SO
I...
I'M SORRY!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME...
I'VE EVER KISSED SOMEONE LIKE THIS
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO REACT...
RATHER, IT'S MORE LIKE I'M NOT USE TO IT
.....
SO THAT'S ALL
THEN THAT'S FINE

OKAY
Shidou-kun
DON'T DO THIS.
WITH ANYONE ELSE
Ahhh
JUST LIKE THIS
STAY WITH ME.

Drip

Ha...
Ha...
Kazufusa!

wobbl
SH
SHIDOU-KUN
IT'S FINE
WHY ARE YOU TWO STILL ALIVE?
WHY IS IT

WHY ARE YOU TWO JUST FINE!?
WHY!?
GET BACK!!
URGH

sfx: jump
SFX: Smack
SFX: BANG

STOP!!
GUSU
UM.

YOU TWO ARE ALLIES
MURDERING EACH OTHER...
JUST ...
STOP ALREADY
MOTOKI...
THAT'S FINE...
HE CAN'T FIGHT ANYMORE...
BUT MOTOKI AFTER THIS HE'LL JUST...
EVEN SO!
PLEASE ...
WATCHING THESE FIGHTS
I CAN'T TAKE IT
I CAN'T TAKE IT... ANYMORE

SO...
SO YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE PITY ON ME...
HA.
KILL ME!
DON'T JOKE AROUND!
DOING THAT WOULD BE KINDER!
KUUCHI!

YOU SHOULD GO TOO.
WE'LL BE LEAVING NOW
JUST LIKE THAT
ALL CUDDLED UP, HUH?
TOGE-THER.
PLANN-ING TO LIVE
YOU TWO ARE

TOGE-
THER!?
YOU'RE PLANNING ON GETTING HAPPINESS?
I'LL KEEP COMING BACK!
LIKE I'LL LET YOU!
AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE,
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO TAKE THAT OFFERING AWAY FROM YOU!

I won't forgive them.
Do you think I'll let you get away from me like this?
SOONER OR LATER...
COUGH
Definitely....
The ones who made me go through this....
All that noise?
What's...

Don't look at me like this
Go away
Shut up
Go...

第14話

ARE YOU CHECKING IN?
WELCOME, SIRS.
SFX: FLASH
I HAVE ARRANGED A TWIN ROOM.
HAVE A NICE STAY.
.....
THEN THERE WILL BE TWO OF YOU, YES?
UNDER-STOOD

SHIDOU-KUN, DON'T TELL ME...
SHOULD I SLEEP OUTSIDE IN THE COLD AND RAIN?
SO WHAT SHOULD I DO?
AND WHAT ABOUT FOOD? AND BATHING?
JUST GOING AROUND TRICKING PEOPLE...
THAT'S AWFUL!
IT'S ILLEGAL!
THAT THIS IS HOW YOU AFFORDED YOUR RENT...
THEN THAT APARTMENT WAS...
.....
KEEP ON WORRYING ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT AND YOU AREN'T GOING TO LIVE FOR LONG
WHY WOULD I...?
YOU NEED TO BE REALISTIC.
DO YOU WANT TO END U... IN THE SEX INDUSTRY OR WHAT?
AS I HAVE NO GUARANTOR, THE ONLY PLACE I WOULD BE ABLE TO GET WOULD BE IN SOME SLUM FOR IMMIGRANTS
YOU COULD GET A REGULAR PART-TIME JOB AND SAVE UP SOME MONEY AND
YOU COULD WORK, YOU KNOW?

SHIDOU-KUN?
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NOT REALLY
DON'T LIE!
YOU WON'T LOOK ME IN THE EYE OR ANYTHING
I GUESS YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT, THOUGH.
AND YOU'RE BEING SO COLD...
...
NAME
HUH?
WHY WON'T YOU CALL ME BY MY NAME?

!
WITH YOUR MEMORY YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE A GOLDFISH!
Don't tell me he's...
BUT YOU STILL JUST CALL ME BY MY LAST NAME, "SHIDOU-KUN." "SHIDOU-KUN."
TO CALL ME BY MY NAME.
?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?
...pouting?
Is this what he's like when he pouts?
UH
I'M SORRY.
UM...
he was cold like this then too.
Come to think of it, when I was worrying about Kanou-san and them,

THUMP
MEAN IT LIKE THAT!!
I DIDN'T...
.....
I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF A KIND WORD TO SAY TO THE GUY I LIKE
I DIDN'T THINK I WAS THIS INCOMPETENT
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT AN APOLOGY
.....

I DON'T NEED YOU TO...
I REALLY WANT TO...
SAY KIND WORDS TO ME...
KUUCHI...
I STILL CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT
THAT YOU, WOULD SAY SUCH THINGS ABOUT ME.

SO I...
NN
HAA...

Huh...?
!
Dummy
What is he...?
Oh.
What...
He...
He couldn't be...

Ah
I can't think
My mind s blank
What should I...?
It's so hot...
Every place he touches me,
I can't breathe
My chest
It hurts
Feels like it's on fire.

What should I do...?
KUUCHI?
SHI...
I'M GOING BRING BACK SOME FOOD
YOU STAY HERE
slam
silence
WHAT THE ...?
...Well, that was out of the blue.
.....

But let down...
sigh
I'm feel kind of relieved...
If I stop and think about it,
...But,
BUT I...
WHAT?
WHAT THE HECK AM I THINKING?
Wah
dither dither
BUT HE...
blush
LET DOWN?
So naturally... He's had much more experience than me, right?
but he's been alive for ages
He doesn't talk about it.
What if...
Well, if he compared me to other's he's been with, he could...
HE GOT TIRED OF ME BECAUSE OF THAT, DID HE?
DON'T TELL ME...
Maybe I'm not good enough...

Even then, I'm
I mean
I'm not a girl, and...
Even then...
Even then...
What if...
Who I am...
This isn't really...

Would he even
like the real
me at all?
haa
haa
haa

503
Maybe it's because I used up all my strength at once?
Every once in a while I feel something like a spasm... What could it be?
Or maybe something else !! ?
So strange.
My body isn't healing like normal.
He might...
I can't let Motoki find out
There's no point in worrying him.

Shut up already...
People are talkin'.
FOR NOW WE CAN'T BE SURE...
BUT WHEN YOU COMPARE HIS DATA WITH SHIDOU KUUCHI'S
SURE-LY.
...THINK?
Where...
Where...
THIS MAN...
IS DEFINITELY OF THE RACE THAT CALLS ITSELF THE CLAN.
AH!

YOU'RE AWAKE!
THANK GOOD-NESS
YOU'VE COME AROUND!
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE ALARMED.
YOU'RE IN THE PROTECTION OF A CERTAIN COMPANY'S RESEARCH FACILITY WHILE YOUR WOUNDS HEAL.
OH!
EXCUSE ME, CALL ME KANOU.
I'M BIT OF AN UPPER-LEVEL COORDINATOR HERE, BUT DON'T YOU MIND THAT.
WOULD YOU MIND ME ASKING YOUR NAME IF THAT'S ALL RIGH-
DON'T TOUCH ME
HUMAN
PLEASE! YOU MUSTN'T MOVE!
YOUR WOUNDS AREN'T CLOSED YET!
URGH!
HANDS OFF!

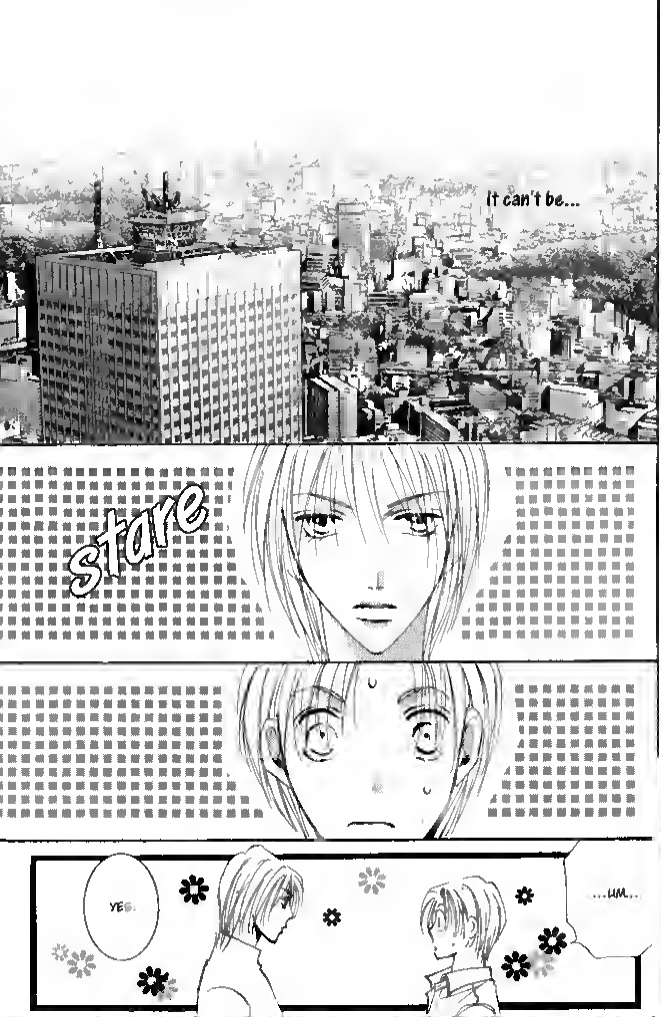
My wounds haven't healed...
What's happened to my strength?
What do you mean "protection?"
Protection?
COME ON NOW LIE DOWN
This is a disgrace.
Being coddled by humans. Told to "lie down" like some weakling...
I FELT BAD FOR NOT RECEIVING YOUR CONSENT,
BUT WE'VE TAKEN A SAMPLE OF YOUR BLOOD FOR EXAMINATION PURPOSES.
SOUKO?
WERE YOU LOSERS AFTER KUUCHI TOO?
TOO BAD HE GOT AWAY.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
YOU GUYS ARE JUST LIKE THAT BITCH SOUKO, HUH?
JUST REST HERE UNTIL YOU CAN GET BACK ON YOUR FEET.
WE HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE OF "THE CLAN."

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D JUST USE ME INSTEAD MAKING ME YOUR TARGET, DIDN'T YOU?
AS IF YOU HUMANS WILL EVER SUCCEED!
SIPHON OFF MY BLOOD? CHOP MY BODY INTO CHUNKS, WILL YOU? YOUR PATHETIC TECHNOLOGY WON'T FIND A THING!
H-HEY, HOLD ON A SECOND...!
TRY WHAT-EVER YOU WANT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU HUMANS CAN ACCOM-PLISH ANYWAY?
PLEASE, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HARM-ING YOU!
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT THEN!?
I WANT TO BE...
FRIENDS WITH YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE
WHAT?
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU ALL
AND WELL, I GUESS I JUST THINK WE SHOULD LEARN TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER

CHIEF, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
WHAT IS IT, HIMENO-KUN?
YOU SHOULD NOT YELL SO LOUD IN YOUR CONDITION
WHOA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SOMEBODY HELP HIM.
!
wobble
HEARD...
SO, I...
THAT'S THE LAMEST THING I EVER...
BUT WE LUCKED OUT WE'VE HAD TWO MEMBERS OF "THE CLAN" FALL INTO OUR LAPS RIGHT AFTER EACH OTHER
IT'S TOO BAD ABOUT KUUCHI BUT HE'S LONG GONE
SURE
ARE YOU PLANNING ON KEEPING HIM HERE?
YOU SAY YOU WANT TO GET ALONG WITH THEM.
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT'S A POSSIBILITY?
BUT HOW CAN I WIN HIS TRUST? I CAN'T WAIT!
happy
happy
CHIEF
THIS TIME I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING REALLY GET ALONG WITH HIM...
OH WE HAVE TO IMPROVE HIS CONDITION FIRST OF COURSE

I'M THINKING ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF ONE OF THEM USES THEIR "POWER" AGAINST US
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE RECKLESS AND TRY TO BE "FRIENDS"
THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THAT DANGER
FURTHERMORE, IT LOOKS LIKE THAT SHIDOU KUUCHI WAS PRETTY MODERATE IN NATURE FOR ONE OF HIS KIND
BUT THIS MAN HERE HE'S JUST PLAIN VIOLENT!
IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, THEY AREN'T EXACTLY FRIENDLY
TO PUT IT FRANKLY, THEY STICK TO THEIR OWN
WE'LL JUST END UP FOLLOWING YOU AS BEST WE CAN REGARDLESS
NOT THAT IT MATTERS
I'M JUST FINE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY
HI-MENO-KUN
CHIEF, YOU'VE ALWAYS GOT YOUR HEAD IN THE CLOUDS, JUST CHASING YOUR DREAMS
I'M WORRIED
PLEASE BE CAREFUL,
TRY NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM.
HI-MENO-KUN!

I JUST
HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS
Why
Why are my wounds healing so much slower than normal?
It's strange
Why the hell
Shit
If I could just get my power back I could bust out of this place in a heartbeat
But I'm stuck here surrounded by all these obnoxious humans. I can't believe this


it can't be...
stare
YES.
...UM...

stare
THAT WAS MY ORDER.
rustle
rustle
Ack
What should I do?
YOU REALLY DON'T NEED TO. REALLY I'M FINE
PRO-TECT ME?
YOU HAVE BEEN TRUSTED TO MY CARE
I'M AFRAID I MUST
I CAME HERE ON KUUCHI-SAMA'S REQUEST
AREN'T YOU
Kouchi's snake boy
W-WHY ARE YOU HERE?
SO THAT I MAY BE BY YOUR SIDE AND PROTECT YOU, MOTOKI-SAMA.
PLEASE TAKE A SEAT AND WAIT, MOTOKI-SAMA
IN THAT CASE, I SHALL PREPARE IT
WOULD YOU LIKE A CUP ?
OH! HOW ABOUT SOME TEA?
S-SERI-OUSLY I'M FINE
Not this again
He's just as untalkative as Shidou-kun
sigh
LIH
OKAY
I GUESS
clatter clatter

Keep up a conversation with this guy. Yeah...
clackclack
clackclack
It's kinda hard to...
HM?
?
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
?
splash!
JUST TELL ME WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
I'LL DO IT MYSELF!
SHIT...
click
MOTOKI
Argh...!
Come back quick, Shidou kun...!
KUUCHI!

PHEW
ffwish
IT'S NOTHING
AHA HA!
UH
WHOOSH
IN THAT CASE I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE...
WELCOME BACK!
THAT TOOK A WHILE, HUH?
UH
YEAH
I GOT PRETTY HUNGRY, I GUESS
YOU BROUGHT BACK FOOD THANKS!
COME ON, LET'S EAT TOGETHER
DO YOU WANT A DRINK? COFFEE... OR TEA... OR...
IT FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU SMILE
HUH?
MOTOKI

SMILE LIKE THAT HUH.
YOU USED TO...
SINCE YOU'VE GOTTEN TANGLED UP IN THIS WITH ME...
YOUR SMILE'S DISAPPEARED...
SORRY
HH.
THAT'S NOT...
IT AT ALL...

LET ME SEE...
MORE OF YOUR SMILE
Oh...
STOP
MOTOKI ?
shove
ドー
s

Taiyou no Romance

by Yamakami Riyu

Chapter 15

The End
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Always open to new freelancers
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scanner > Bliss
translator > Kalendel
editor > Ximena
qc > Ishitori

Chapter 15

...MOTOKI.
MOTO...
DON'T!!
I...
JUST.. DON'T.
MOTOKI ...WHY...?
BE-CAUSE—!

THE PERSON YOU'RE LOOKING AT RIGHT NOW
ISN'T THE REAL ME...
SORRY...
I'M SORRY.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS TRYING TO TRICK YOU
BUT...
THE REAL ME DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THIS...
RATHER..
I'M COMPLETELY UNREMARKABLE. I DON'T STAND OUT AT ALL...
I...
I DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH RELATIONSHIPS.
ACTUALLY, I'VE NEVER EVEN TALKED ABOUT IT—

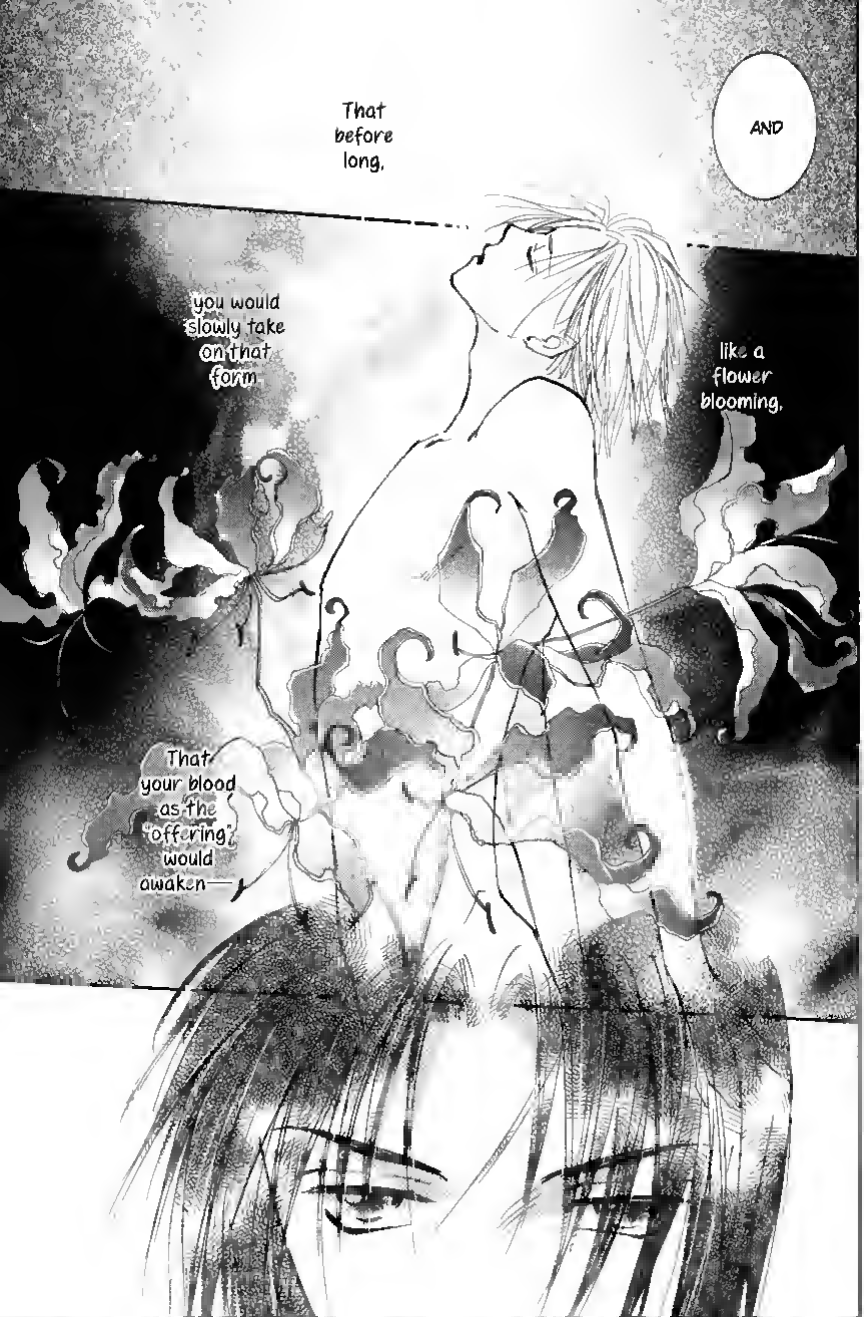
I WASN'T REALLY LOOKING FOR A RELATIONSHIP,
AND I WASN'T REALLY INTERESTED IN THE PEOPLE AROUND ME...
WEIRD, RIGHT? AND I LOOK LIKE THIS NOW...
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE ANY SELF-CONFIDENCE BEFORE.
That's right
LET ME SEE YOUR NOTES!
AHAHA!
...I DID HAVE FRIENDS.
THOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE WE'D GO AND HANG OUT TOGETHER.
AHAHA!
That's right.
OH, THAT LOOKS GOOD SWITCH WITH ME?
CAN I BORROW LUNCH MONEY FROM YOU?
THEY MOSTLY
So
TAKE MY PLACE AND CLEAN THE CLASS TODAY, WILL YOU?
YOU'RE REALLY A NICE GUY.
WANTED SOMETHING FROM ME—
I always

I...
I'M A SAD GUY.
BUT
I KEPT MYSELF FROM REALLY THINKING ABOUT IT
BUT... THERE'S NO HELPING IT, I GUESS.
I'M REALLY WORTH-LESS.
...SINCE I
WAS AN UN-REMARKABLE, BORING KID...
Took care of the flowers
alone...

You..
You're such a strong, beautiful being..
I can't even imagine you being with someone like me.
YOU'D GET OVER ME FAST...
not someone who'd turn your head
I'M SURE
IF YOU SAW THE REAL ME...
Truthfully,
I'm
so
If I'd just kept quiet..
But
He doesn't know the real me
maybe I shouldn't have said anything
...I KNOW YOU.
so I didn't want to lie——...
I love you,
I love you.

I'VE KNOWN
FOR A LONG TIME
HUH...?
...I KNEW.

SINCE WELL BEFORE MY EXISTENCE WAS REVEALED TO YOU THAT DAY IN CLASS.
I'VE KNOWN YOU
SINCE YOU WERE STILL A CHILD—
I'VE KNOWN WHAT KIND OF CHILD YOU WERE,
HOW YOU GREW UP,
HOW MUCH
YOUR FAMILY LOVED YOU,
AND HOW YOU LOVED YOUR FAMILY.
HOW YOU'D GO ALONE TO THE SCHOOL FLOWERBEDS THAT EVERYONE IGNORED,
CAREFULLY WATER THEM,
AND WHISPER TO THEM.
I KNOW IT ALL.


That before long,
AND
you would slowly take on that form
like a flower blooming,
That your blood as the "offering" would awaken—

I'VE WATCHED YOU FOR A LONG TIME...
.....
I...
I DIDN'T KNOW ...
HOW LONG ...?
ALL THAT ...
—I INTENDED TO DEVOUR YOU.
Grrrr...
I WANTED TO KNOW YOU.
YOU AREN'T JUST LIVE-STOCK THAT CAN SPEAK

CANNIBALISM WAS ONCE NORMAL AMONG SOME HUMANS.
THEY DID IT BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THEY WOULD OBTAIN THAT PERSON'S STRENGTH AND VALOR.
I —— WANTED TO KNOW
THE WORTH OF THE ONE I WOULD EAT —...
He knew—
He..
knew
TH—
THEN
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED —...
FOR IT TO BE...
So why?
SOME-ONE LIKE ME..

I WANTED TO HOLD THAT SMALL LIGHT.
IT WAS AN OFFERING I'D NEVER LET GO OF.
I WAS FIXATED ON THE PREY I WOULD DEVOUR.
THAT'S HOW I THOUGHT OF IT.
EVEN NOW, THE LIGHT IS SO WEAK IT SEEMS LIKE IT COULD VANISH
NEVER FLASHY.
BUT STILL,
A WARM LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARKNESS.
YOU ARE A SMALL LIGHT,
MOTOKI.
SEE YOU —— MOTOKI.
I FINALLY
in the distant past
That's right.
BUT NOW I UNDERSTAND.

That's what I said
to him.
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
And back then, he smiled.
All those hundreds of years ago——
KAZUMASA
DON'T YOU AGREE?
IT'S PROFANE FOR US TO EAT THEM WITHOUT KNOWING THEM.
THEY'RE JUST SOMETHING YOU KILL AND EAT.
EACH OFFERING IS THE SAME AS A HUMAN
THAT'S NOT TRUE
AND WHAT WILL YOU DO AFTER YOU GET TO KNOW THE OFFERING?

But even though time passed
he was the same when I met him again
AN OFFERING IS AN OFFERING
IT'S PREDATOR AND PREY!!
As he is,
he still
doesn't under-stand
these feelings.

WE DON'T NATURALLY FEEL THE EMOTION OF LOVE.
SINCE IF WE WERE ROCKED AS EASILY AS HUMANS IN THEIR COMPLICATED LOVE LIVES,
WITH OUR LONGEVITY, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ENDURE IT.
So rich,
and radiant..
...FOR A LONG TIME,
This feeling
IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN TRAVELING
ON A SOLITARY JOURNEY...
This warm love
that fills the heart.
An emotion that cannot be put into words. It just gently thaws the heart.

BUT
LOOK AT ME, MOTOKI
WHAT DO I LOOK LIKE?
THERE IS LESS THAN A FIVE PERCENT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HUMANS AND MONKEYS.
SO WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND HUMANS?
WOULD IT BE SO WRONG TO THINK THAT WE AND HUMANS BOTH CAME FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR?
SINCE I MET YOU, I NOW FEEL THE SAME EMOTIONS THAT HUMANS DO
I'D NEVER EVEN REALIZED
THE LONELINESS THAT FILLED MY LIFE UP UNTIL NOW.
YOU SHOWED ME THAT.

ONLY YOU
ARE ABLE TO TEACH ME THAT
KUU...
I LOVE YOU
YOU
NOT HOW YOU LOOK
YOUR WARMTH,
YOUR GENTLE AND CALM NATURE.

THAT'S SO EARNEST IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.
AND THAT RESOLVE YOU SHOW SOMETIMES,
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE NEVER SAID BEFORE.
I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU,
MOTOKI.

but
DON'T CRY.
WHY ARE YOU CRYING ...?

I love you—

throb
AH...

NIBBLE..
...AH.
DON'T...

Wait
W...
W...
...!
SNap...
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
...UH!
YOU DON'T WANT ME TO TOUCH YOU?
.....!
IF YOU DON'T ...
I'LL STOP.
...!
NO...

...
DON'T
...
DON'T
STOP...
creAK

Uh...
So hot
I'm embarrassed
What parts of me is he looking at?
What parts is he touching?
It's hot.

I don't know.
I'm embarrassed.
I'm too embarrassed...
I can't open my eyes.
Jolt
Slide...
...HA...
Slurp...
AH!
MM!
AH...
don't like it..
I.
AH...
My voice...

AH...
RELAX FOR ME
...!

AH!
UH!
MM!
MM!
AH...
MM!
AA AH ...!
AH!
AH!

...DOES IT HURT...?
...NO.
I'M FINE...
KEEP GOING...
SO...

OPEN UP! ♪
OK.
YOU'RE AN IDIOT
IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO EAT THAT CRAP
Ignore
PORRIDGE IS GOOD FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE SICK
Easy to digest
THAT'S FOR POOR PEOPLE. IT'S NOT GOING IN MY MOUTH.
HUH, SO YOU CAN EAT HUMAN FOOD TOO.
OF COURSE.
I'M NOT SOME IMMORTAL SAGE WHO CAN LIVE ON WATER VAPOR

WHAT'RE YOU WRITING IT DOWN FOR!?
SO YOU HAVE THE SAME DIGESTIVE TRACT AS HUMANS.
NO, I WAS JUST THINKING THAT EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE FROM THE SAME CLAN, YOU AND KUUCHI-KUN HAVE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT HAIR COLORS
SOME-THING FUNNY ?
HE HE
HERE I THOUGHT THAT AS THE CENTURIES ROLL BY, YOUR RACE GETS MORE SOLEMN AND DIGNIFIED. LIKE SAGES.
Hmph
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T COMPARE ME AND HIM
TALK TO ME SOME WHILE YOU SIT THERE AND POUT
\ ! /
LISTEN.
THOUGH WHEN I LOOK AT KUUCHI-KUN, I DO GET THAT FEELING ——
YOU GOT A POINT?

IT'S LIKE I'M TALKING TO A SULLEN HIGH SCHOOLER.
IT'S KIND OF CUTE.
.....
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
I'M MUCH, MUCH OLDER THAN YOU ARE.
I DON'T HAVE KIDS, BUT I WONDER IF IT'D FEEL KIND OF LIKE THIS IF I DID.
NO, I GET THAT-
IT'S FUN.
I
YOU IDIOT...
COUGH
OOPS.

MAYBE WE'VE BEEN TALKING TOO MUCH.
LIE DOWN—
.. IF
HUH?
YOU WANT ME TO RECOVER..
IF YOU DO THAT, I'LL REGAIN MY STRENGTH,
AYABE MOTOKI—
KILL EVERYONE HERE, AND GET THE HELL OUT OF THIS PLACE.
CAPTURE THAT OFFERING AND GIVE ME HIS HEART.
.....
HE HE HE

.....
KUUCHI ...
SLide...
—?
KUUCHI ...?
blush
throb throb throb
.....
throb

KUUCHI ...
Oh.
CLACK!

He won't... look me in the eye
YEAH.
DID YOU WAKE UP OK?

!
DON'T SAY THAT.
... SORRY.
IT LOOKS LIKE I OVERDID IT...
IF YOU APOLOGIZE, I...
DON'T APOLOGIZE ...
I...
ぎゅ
!

KUU...
IT'S LIKE I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF...
WHEN I TOUCH YOU,
LET ME APOLOGIZE

Taiyou no Romance

by Yamakami Riyu

Chapter 16

The End

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Chapter 16

bZZ
bZZ
chirp
chirp
bZZZ
chirp
bZZZ
chirp
chirp
bZZZ
chirp
bZZZ

WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?

Motoki ...?
Mom
Is this Motoki when he was young?
No but...
?
Today is...
My mom's birthday
So...
This child is——
SO?
FOR MOM

Rushe...
a memory from the past ?
— is this...
IT'LL BE FINE.
I'M SURE
YOUR MOM WILL LOVE IT...

Why
.....?

Our race doesn't have...
MORNING .....
smile~
the habit of dreaming...
rustle
MM...
A dream..?
Was that a dream ——?
.....!
...WHAT IS IT?
hee
...WELL
I HAD A REALLY NOSTALGIC DREAM
ABOUT WHEN I WAS A KID.

WHEN I WAS REALLY LITTLE
I GAVE MY MOM A DRAWING OF FLOWERS FOR HER BIRTHDAY.
BUT I WASN'T GOOD AT DRAWING,
SO I WAS EMBAR-RASSED ABOUT IT.
IN THE END...
SOME GUY I DIDN'T KNOW
TOLD ME IT'D BE FINE...
IT WAS WEIRD.
I WAS REALLY SCARED OF STRANGERS BACK THEN.
BUT I COULD TALK TO HIM WITHOUT A PROBLEM...
IT'S A GOOD MEMORY.
BUT IT'S STRANGE.. I SHOULD'VE FORGOTTEN THAT BY NOW..

WAS THAT GUY
YOU... .....?
Why would I have a dream like a human ?
And it was even the same dream Motoki had
Back then, I still didn't know anything.
—— I hadn't yet begun to think about

What it meant...
KAZUFUSA-SAMA

IT'S NOTHING.
YOU WILL RECOVER SOON.
PLEASE LIE DOWN FOR NOW.
KAZUFUSA-SAMA——!!
!
HAA!
HA!
HAH.
HE ...
HE HE!
HAA!
HA HA ...
HA ...

DO NOT REGRET IT!
WHAT HAPPENED BACK THEN!
I...
I!
I DON'T ...
THAT'S RIGHT...
HAVE ANY REGRETS ...

It's so irritating.....
Staying in bed like this every day.
I can't stop thinking about what happened then.
To think that me of all people would be prisoner to the past——
.....THE HELL WITH IT.
I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE—
AND THEN...
And then——
UGH...
HEY!

SNAP
YOU NEED TO HAVE A PERMIT—
..
THIS AREA IS RESTRICTED TO STAFF ONLY!
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
THUD...
GDE AK...
KAZUFUSA.
TAP...
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME,

CROSS
……!

— IT'S WEIRD.
HOW I LOOKED AS A KID IN THE DREAM
IS JUST LIKE I LOOK NOW, BUT YOUNGER.
I KNOW DREAMS AREN'T PERFECT COPIES OF REALITY,
BUT I STILL THINK IT'S STRANGE.
...?
TRUE SELF?
YOU KEEP ON THINKING THAT YOUR APPEARANCE HAS CHANGED, BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE.
THAT'S YOUR TRUE SELF.
.....

IT'S KIND OF HARD TO EXPLAIN..
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, YOU ARE THEIR BIOLOGICAL CHILD.
AND THEY ARE DEFINITELY HUMAN.
BUT
ONE OF THEM IS A CARRIER FOR THE "OFFERING" GENE.
YOUR PREVIOUS APPEARANCE WAS JUST A DISGUISE.
Dis-guise ?
ARE THEY NOT MY PARENTS ....?
OR .. ARE MY PARENTS ACTUALLY NOT HUMAN ...?
BUT I LOOKED A LOT LIKE MY PARENTS.
BUT ...
SO MUCH SO THAT WHEN WE STOOD TOGETHER, IT WAS OBVIOUS WE'RE FAMILY .....

...GENE... CARRIER?
THE BLOOD OF THE OFFERING IS INHERITED.
PARENTS PASS IT TO THEIR CHILDREN, AND THOSE CHILDREN PASS IT ON TO THEIR OWN.
NORMALLY THE GENE SLEEPS IN THE BLOOD,
AND THE CARRIER LIVES THEIR LIFE WITHOUT IT AWAKENING.
BUT WITH A SET REGULARITY,
ONCE EVERY FEW GENERATIONS,
ONE OF THEM WILL AWAKEN AS AN "OFFERING".
FROM THE MOMENT OF BIRTH, THEY'RE FATED TO BE CHASED BY US AS PREY.
THEY ALWAYS LOOK AVERAGE
SO THAT THEY CAN HAVE A NORMAL LIFE BEFORE THEY AWAKEN,
IN ORDER TO MASK AND PROTECT THEMSELVES .....

I.....
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND YOU MEAN...
THAT WHO I WAS BEFORE WASN'T THE REAL ME...?
AND HOW I LOOK NOW...
IS WHO I REALLY AM.....?
THAT'S RIGHT.
.....
WHAT IS IT?
LET'S GO.
CLACK
TRUTH IS..
I ALWAYS WORRIED OVER HOW I LOOKED.

I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF.
AND I WAS TIMID AND AFRAID
I HATED IT.
BUT.. NOW THAT MY LOOKS HAVE CHANGED, MAYBE OTHER THINGS CHANGED SOME TOO ..
MAYBE ...
MAYBE THE OTHER STUFF WAS GETTING BETTER TOO.
I COULD MAKE MORE FRIENDS,
AND ..
BUT IT'S REALLY NO USE THINK-ING ABOUT THAT NOW!
YOU...

I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU
JUST AS YOU WERE.
...EVEN IF YOU DON'T CHANGE,
WERE FINE JUST AS YOU WERE.
I CAN SEE
ALL YOUR GOOD POINTS.
You always watched me, ever since I was little.

I've started to like myself more——
.....
THANKS.
It's strange
Just by you saying that
SAB
COME WITH ME!
WH-
WHAT IS IT?
——?
WHAT'S WRONG?

W... WHAT'S WRONG?
Those guys—
SHH!
are Souko's..
Sunny Hotel
Sunny Hotel
Sunny Hotel
.....
LET'S GO, MOTOKI.
They work for her...
HUH?
KUUCHI .....

Did she send people to do random searches because she knows we're hiding in the city?
I don't think she'll find us that easily.
but my memory manipulation doesn't hold for a long time
And then there's Kazufusa to worry about
DON'T WORRY
BUT!
I'M OK, JUST A LITTLE DIZZY.
KUUCHI!
And above all
WOBBLE
What's going on with me?
I've never experienced this before.
With my body like this

Can I still protect Motoki —…?
LET'S GO.
KUUCHI……

WHERE?
YOU'VE FALLEN FAR SINCE I LAST SAW YOU.
YOU'RE A TOTAL MESS

NAOU!
KOUYA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
.....SHUT UP!
YOU KNOW THAT WE'VE ONLY GOT ONE GOAL.
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?
WE'RE BRETHREN, AFTER ALL.

WE FOLLOWED YOUR PRESENCE AND CAME HERE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
AND TO GIVE YOU THE BAD NEWS.
TELL ME WHY YOU'RE HERE!
SHUT UP!
NAOU, JUST BE QUIET.
We've got business to attend to.
HA HA
HE HASN'T EATEN AN OFFERING YET.
JUST LIKE I SAID,
SEE, I KNEW IT.
AND HE'S IN A PLACE LIKE THIS TALKING WITH HUMANS, IT'S PATHETIC.
—BAD NEWS?
WE CAN'T FIND AN OFFERING.

YOU KNOW WE'VE BEEN TRAVELLING TOWARDS THE WEST.
BUT WE CAN'T FIND AN OFFERING THERE.
NOT JUST THE WEST,
BUT ALL OVER HONSHU.
THERE AREN'T ANY AWAKENED OFFERINGS.
...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...?
WE'D REALIZED THERE WAS A DOWN-WARD TREND,
SINCE WE HAD REPORTS THAT THE NUMBER OF OFFERINGS IS DECREAS-ING.
.. THAT'S WHY WE CAME HERE.
YOU KNOW WHY WE CAN'T FIND AN OFFERING, DON'T YOU?
IT'S PROBABLY NOT JUST HONSHU. KYUSHU, SHIKOKU, THE NORTH —— THEY'RE ALL THE SAME.
THE HUMANS THAT HAVE THE OFFERING'S BLOOD ARE NOT AWAKENING.

WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET AN OFFERING'S HEART.
THAT MEANS
AND THEN
WE WILL
FACE EXTINCTION.

UNLESS ..YOU GUYS..
HA!
THAT WAS QUICK.
OH!
I FOUND AN AWAKENED OFFERING
HE'S...
NO OFFERINGS...?
RIDICULOUS ..
WE'RE TAKING THAT OFFERING.
CLATTER
!
...UH!
OOPS

YOU FINALLY FOUND AN OFFERING, BUT HE SLIPPED AWAY, AND NOW YOU'RE A MESS.
WHAT HAPPENED?
HOW PITIFUL, KAZUFUSA.
WE CAME HERE TO EAT HIM,
BUT THESE PAST FEW DAYS WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SENSE HIM.
WHERE HAS HE GONE?
THAT GUY AYABE IS THE ONLY OFFERING WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM.
I'LL TELL YOU.
HE'S WITH KUUCHI
HA... HA...
HE HE..
HA..
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?
WHERE HE IS.

STOP IT, NAOU!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
— GO AHEAD
YOU THINK YOU COULD?
EVEN I COULDN'T DO THAT.
KUUCHI ...?
SEE IF YOU CAN TAKE HIM FROM KUUCHI.
GO AHEAD AND TRY.
AND MOCK ME.
FORGET IT!
YOU TWO ARE GOING TO WIND UP FIGHTING IT OUT AND DESTROYING EACH OTHER OVER HIM!
WILL YOU SPLIT IT IN HALF?
EVEN IF YOU GET HIM, WHO WILL EAT IT?
— WAIT
IF YOU CAN'T GET THE OFFERING, YOU'LL WIND UP LOOKING JUST LIKE ME.

I CAN ACCEPT THAT OUTCOME.
IT'S BETTER THAN HAVING NO FUTURE LIKE YOU AND RELYING ON THE HUMANS FOR PROTECTION.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
THAT'S FINE,
SO LONG AS ONE OF US LIVES.
GRAB
DAMN YOU.
STILL
WHAT HAPPENED!?
IT'S THAT EASY.
IF KULICHI ISN'T SENSIBLE, WE'LL KILL HIM.
WH—
SLAM
WHO DID THIS...!?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GUARDS!?

WHO
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
HOW DID YOU GET IN.....
SHUT UP! STUPID HUMAN.
KAZUFUSA,
I DON'T THINK WE WILL MEET AGAIN.
WHAT A PITY.
YOU WERE A GOOD WARRIOR,
A PITY?
SOMEHOW I DOUBT YOUR SINCERITY.
OF COURSE
I WASN'T SERIOUS
WAIT!
I WON'T LET YOU KILL KUUCHI!

I'LL BE THE ONE TO KILL HIM!!
IN YOUR CURRENT STATE?
THAT'S THE FUNNIEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD
Oh!
ARE-
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
HEY,
WERE THOSE TWO YOUR PARTNERS?
He said
he couldn't find any offerings
What's going on!?
Gg hh hh
Nasu, quit cackling like that...

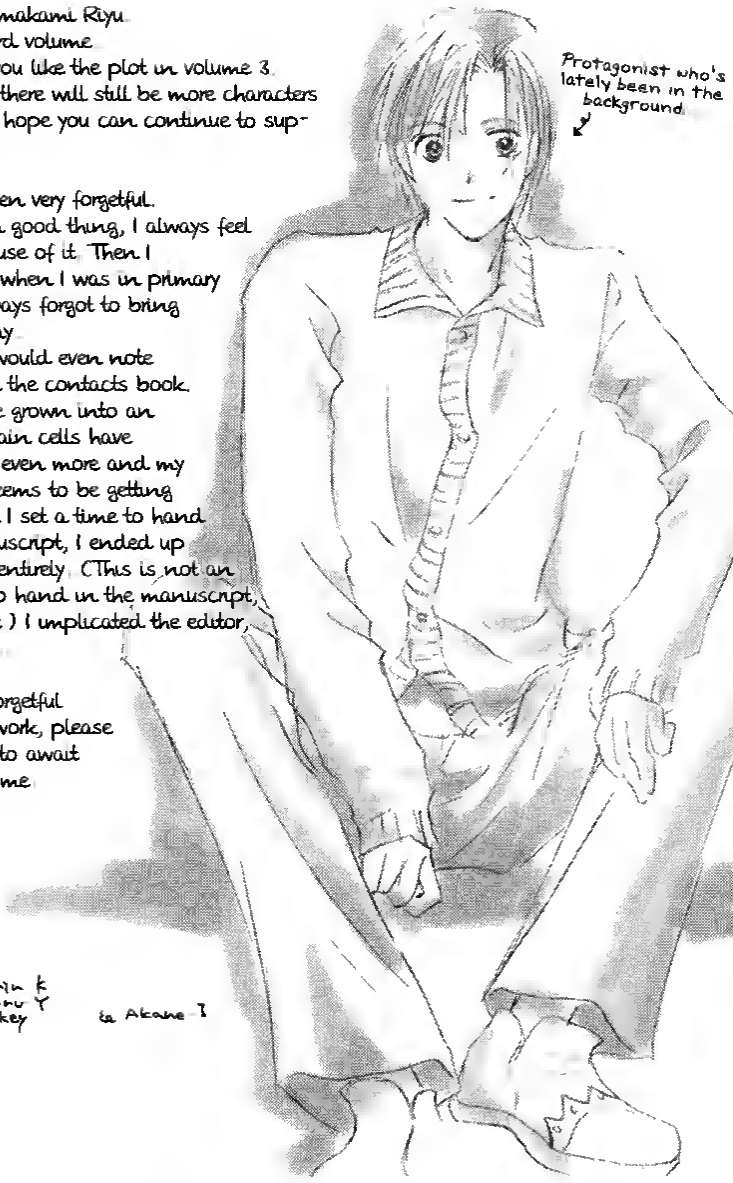
WOW, THIS IS GREAT!
I'M SO LUCKY!
I'VE MET MORE OF YOU! FOUR, NOW!
.....
You're so carefree .....
AH, WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WE'RE NOT PERFECT.
WE'RE KILLING OURSELVES OFF——
So your name's Kazufusa
How do you spell that?
You hear me? Hey!
Can't be——...
o Continued in volume 4.o

AFTERWORD

Hello, I'm Yamakami Riyu.
This is the 3rd volume.
I wonder if you like the plot in volume 3.
In the future there will still be more characters appearing, I hope you can continue to support me.

Lately I've been very forgetful.
This is not a good thing, I always feel uneasy because of it. Then I remembered when I was in primary school, I always forgot to bring stuff every day.
The teacher would even note "forgetful" on the contacts book.
Now that I've grown into an adult, my brain cells have degenerated even more and my condition seems to be getting worse. When I set a time to hand in the manuscript, I ended up forgetting it entirely. (This is not an excuse not to hand in the manuscript, I really forgot.) I implicated the editor, I'm so sorry.

This is the forgetful mangaka's work, please don't forget to await the next volume.



Thanks! Nonin K
Kaoru Y
Mickey
& Akane T

太陽のロマンス 3

やまかみ梨由
RIYU YAMAKAMI

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やまかみ梨由

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RIYU YAMAKAMI

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SHINSHOKAN

碁希の心臓を狙う一角と、空知の不老不死の身体を欲する蜜子からの襲撃を退けたふたり。逃亡生活が続く中、ついに空知が碁希に告白する——「愛している」と。そしてふたりは傷ばれる ！ 一方、瀕死の重傷を負った一角は、同じ組織に属しつつも蜜子とは目的を別にする加納らに保護されるが …!? 灼熱の恋愛 第三弾!!

RIYU やまかみ・りゆ YAMAKAMI